



U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS SUMMARY:

United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic announced today that the owner of Ambassador Limousine of Wisconsin, LLC, was indicted by a federal grand jury today and charged with two counts of bank fraud. Brian Singleton (DOB: 4/20/69) of Muskego was charged with executing a scheme to defraud Tri-City National Bank and others by knowingly charging inflated amounts to the credit cards of the limousine service's customers.

According to the indictment, after Singleton charged the inflated amounts to the limousine service's customers' credit cards, credit card companies deposited proceeds of the inflated charges into Ambassador Limousine's business checking account at Tri-City National Bank. Singleton allegedly then wrote checks against the fraudulently obtained funds. Between May 6, 2002, and July 31, 2002, Singleton is alleged to have issued at least \$54,000 in fraudulent charges to customers' credit cards.

Although over \$54,000 in charges have now been reversed by customers' credit card companies, the scheme purportedly caused Tri-City National Bank to suffer a loss of over \$20,000. According to the indictment, when the credit card companies reversed Singleton's inflated charges, they first sought reimbursement from Ambassador Limousine's business checking account at Tri-City National Bank. But because that account contained insufficient funds to repay the full \$54,000 in reimbursement demands, Tri-City was left responsible for paying over \$20,000 to credit card companies as reimbursement for Singleton's allegedly fraudulent overcharges.

The indictment describes two specific instances in which Singleton is alleged to have made fraudulent charges to customers' credit cards. On May 29, 2002, Singleton is alleged to have charged \$9,750 to a customer who had merely made a reservation for limousine services but not authorized any charges. On June 6, 2002, Singleton is alleged to have charged \$3,900 to a customer who had actually authorized Ambassador Limousine to charge only \$54 to her credit card.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Scott J. Campbell.

The public is cautioned that an indictment is merely the formal method of returning charges against an individual and does not constitute inference of his or her guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government established his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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